

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. Examiner acknowledges receipt of 3/12/10 amendment to the claims which was entered into the file.
2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Nicolas Seckel on 6/4/10.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

For claim 1, on pg 3 line 3, "0.6 to 12" has been replaced with the term --2 to 11--

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For claim 34, the claim dependency "claim 33" has been replaced with --claim 32--.

For claim 36, the claim dependency "claim 35" has been replaced with the term --claim 1--.

Claims 33 and 35 have been cancelled.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

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4. With regard to the examiner's previous 112 1st paragraph rejections over the claims, applicant's arguments (pgs 7-9 of remarks) are convincing in that a series of data points conducted in the examples in applicant's specification would have adequately enabled the claimed ranges.

5. With respect to the examiners rejections made over the applied art; the declaration under 37 CFR 1.132 filed 10/14/09 in combination with Applicant's agreement to the above examiners amendments to the claims is sufficient to overcome the rejections of the claims based upon primary reference Ikemoto (claims 1, 8, 14-17, and 31-36) and further in view of Sanefuji (claim 9), Harita (claim 11), Burger (claim 12), Kondo (claim 13), and Tanaka (claim 18). The evidence of record is found to now be commensurate in scope with the recited claims. Upon further search and consideration, the examiner is unable to find any prior art teaching the applicant's recited claimed ranges (especially the claimed range of 2 to 11 seconds) in conjunction with the recited processing conditions in the process of producing a polarizing film.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to NATHAN H. EMPIE whose telephone number is (571)270-1886. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 6:45- 4:15 EST.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Cleveland can be reached on (571) 272-1418. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/N. H. E./
Examiner, Art Unit 1712

/Michael Cleveland/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1712